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STATE FOR GRAY, FELTMAN
NSC FOR SINGH, ABRAHMS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/14/2018
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PTER](#) [SY](#) [SA](#) [LE](#) [QA](#) [BA](#)
SUBJECT: BAHRAIN'S KING HAMAD ON SYRIA, LEBANON AND THE
PALESTINIANS

Classified by Ambassador Adam Ereli for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

1. (S) Summary: Bahrain's King Hamad told the Ambassador that Syria was working to have anyone but Siniora represent Lebanon at the Arab League.
2. (S) During an hour-long audience with the Ambassador on February 13, King Hamad discussed at length a visit he received the previous day from Siniora.
3. (S) King Hamad said the Syrians were making a concerted effort to prevent Prime Minister Siniora from representing Lebanon at the Arab League.
4. (S) The Saudis were particularly angry over Qatari mediation efforts in Lebanon. According to Muqrin, the Government of Qatar was advocating for Siniora.
5. (S) King Hamad concluded that Bahrain would support the Arab League and that it would continue to advocate respect for all UN Security Council resolutions.
6. (S) The King also discussed the February 12 visit of Abu Mazen to Bahrain. He said that Abu Mazen knew that President Bush was doing his best to resolve the conflict.